Calendar No. 935

82D CONGRESS, 1st Session | SENATE | REPORT No. 1014

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MEIKO SHINDO

OCTOBER 16 (legislative day, OCTOBER 1), 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MCCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2041]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 2041) for the relief of Meiko Shindo, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

AMENDMENT

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

That for the purposes of sections 4 (a) and 9 of the Immigration Act of 1924, as amended, and notwithstanding the provisions of section 13 (c) of that Act, the minor child, Meike Shindo, shall be held and considered to be the natural-born alien minor child of Captain and Mrs. Elmer F. Reavis, citizens of the United States.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill, as amended, is to waive the racial barrier to admission into the United States in behalf of a minor half-Japanese child in the custody of Capt. and Mrs. Elmer F. Reavis, citizens of the United States. The child would be considered to be a nonquota immigrant which is the status normally enjoyed by the alien minor children of citizens of the United States. The bill as introduced did not provide for a racial waiver and the bill has been amended accordingly.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill was born in Japan on February 25, 1951, of a Japanese mother and an unknown American soldier father. The child is presently in the care of Capt. and Mrs. Elmer F. Reavis who are citizens of the United States. Captain Reavis has been in Japan with our Armed Forces since November 1948.

Senator Harry P. Cain, the author of the bill, has submitted the following information with reference to the case:

HEADQUARTERS, THIRD AIR RESCUE SQUADRON,
APO 994 c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif., July 26, 1951.

Hon. Senator HARRY P. CAIN,
Washington, D. C.

HON. HARRY P. CAIN: This letter is to introduce myself, Capt. Elmer F. Reavis and wife Greta A. Reavis.

We are requesting that you present a private bill before Congress obtaining American citizenship for an American-Japanese baby girl, that we have adopted. We have named her Diane Leslie Reavis.

The father of the baby was an American soldier who is presently in Korea. The name of the soldier is unknown.

The mother's name was Chieko Shindo. The baby was born at Tashimaku, Japan, Tokyo Prefecture on February 25, 1951. Her Japanese given name was Meiko Shindo. We have had the baby 4 days and as we have not a picture of her I will describe her. She is very fair with red hair and hazel eyes, a very American-looking baby.

I was born in Prescott, Wash., Walla Walla County, on September 3, 1921. I attended Prescott grade and high school graduating in 1939. I worked for local farmers between that time until I joined the services in 1943, and served in England as a pilot of a B-17, flying a tour of 35 missions. I was awarded the Air Medal with six clusters for outstanding duty. I left the services in the fall of 1945 to attend the University of Washington. I attended the university until October of 1948 when I was recalled to the services and sent to Japan. I have been serving in Japan since November 1948.

My father, Gilbert B. Reavis, was born in Missouri and moved to Washington when he was 5 years old and has lived there until the present time. His occupation is farming. He owns his own farm at Touchet, Wash., Walla Walla County.

My mother, Mable B. Reavis, was born in Washington and she has remained there. She has raised seven boys and two girls with five of the boys serving in World War II.

My wife was born Greta Aileen Leonard at Panora, Iowa, Guthrie County, March 22, 1923. She is a graduate of Panora High School. Both of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Leonard, were born in Iowa and at the present time live in Algona, Wash., King County. Her father is a carpenter by trade and they own their own farm and home. Their occupation in Iowa was farming.

My wife's birth certificate is recorded at Des Moines, Iowa, courthouse and my birth certificate is recorded at Olympia, Wash. We were married at Santa Anna, Calif., Orange County on April 17, 1943. We have owned homes in Walla Walla, and Seattle, Wash.

My wife has worked for civil service in the States and in Japan and her background has been investigated favorably. For the past 6 months she has been working on Johnson Air Base, quitting her job to adopt this baby.

I submit the following names for references: State Senator C. S. Harley, 11111 Aurora Avenue, Seattle 33, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mitchell, 8224 Interlake Avenue, Seattle 3, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wilkinson, 6511 Nineteenth NE., Seattle 5, Wash.; Mrs. Iva Berry, 405 North Third Street, Walla Walla, Wash.

We are scheduled to return to the States around the 3d of September 1951. We realize under the present world situation that you must be extremely busy, however, we would be ever grateful if you could expedite this request in the shortest time possible as we are very anxious to bring our daughter into the United States as an American citizen when we return September 3. Thanking you with all our heart.

Sincerely,

ELMER F. REAVIS, AO764090,
Captain, USAF.

GRETA A. REAVIS.

EVERGREEN CEMETERY CO., OF SEATTLE,
Seattle, Wash., August 13, 1951.

Senator HARRY P. CAIN,
United States, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR CAIN: Replying to your letter of August 6 concerning Capt. Elmer F. Reavis who has requested that you introduce a private bill on behalf of a Japanese baby girl whom he would like to adopt and bring back to the United States.

I have known Captain Reavis for a number of years and consider him to be a first class citizen of high integrity and good standing. His reputation for taking care of his business is good. I do not hesitate in approving his request that you introduce this bill.

Mrs. Reavis was my secretary for a number of years and she is a very fine young woman. I was sorry to lose her services, and I have no hesitancy in recommending her as well as Captain Reavis.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Cordially yours,

C. S. HARLEY, *President.*

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 2041), as amended, should be enacted.

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